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greatest danger with which this land is threatened comes from the ignorant and persistent zeal of some of its women. They abuse the freedom under which they live, and to gain an impossible power would fain destroy the government that alone can protect them." In return for man's brute advantage in point of force, and protected by the system of order in which this force expresses itself, woman is at an advantage in her more intimate connection with the reproduction of life, and and her superior moral and psychic opportunity in connection with offspring and with the race. Woman's position is, therefore, really the enviable one, since the content of life is more precious than the forms regulating life.

In twelve well written and outspoken chapters the author asserts that woman's suffrage is not in accord with true democratic principles, and has historically been allied with despotism, monarchy, and ecclesiastical oppression; that it was in no wise an aid, but rather a hindrance to the movements of anti-slavery and temperance; that it was not instrumental in opening the trades to women; that it has extended its sympathy to socialistic and unsound-money agitations; that it has agitated not for education but for coeducation, and that woman's access to educational opportunity was wrought through the influence of women opposed to the woman suffrage idea; that in relation to the church and the ministry, woman has exhibited qualities rendering her peculiarly dangerous as a public leader; that woman is unable to meet the necessary duties of the voting citizen—in connection with jury duty, police duty, and office holding—and that this has been demonstrated in the Western states; and that the movement strikes a blow squarely at marriage and the home.

Aside from its polemical interest and the merits of the doctrines espoused, this book is a valuable contribution to the history of thought in America.

WILLIAM I. THOMAS.

Outlines of Elementary Economics. By HERBERT J. DAVENPORT.
New York: The Macmillan Co., 1897. Pp. 280.

THE author has succeeded in making an elementary text-book readable and attractive. An interesting pedagogical device is that of placing questions at the beginning of the chapter to provoke curiosity as well as at the end for review and reflection. The text itself is compact and well reasoned, written by one who looks straight at the

facts of daily business life and seeks to account for them. A good example of clear statement is the presentation of Böhm-Bawerk's theory of interest.

The definition of the scope of economics is worth considering: "Political Economy treats of men in their commercial and industrial activities from the standpoint of markets and values." The object of consideration is not things, goods, wealth, but human beings in a certain aspect, that is, as engaged in the pursuit or use of goods and services which have a market value. This is surely wide enough field for one discipline and there is distinct advantage in sharply distinguishing it from other fields. Of course room is left, after the science of wealth has marked out its plough land, for a "science of welfare." This is clearly expressed (p. 25): "The commendable character of the desire in question or the good sense of its satisfaction is not suggested in the economic use of the word utility As long as men are influenced by evil purposes, or by ignorance, to buy and sell foolishness and evil, so long the student must recognize these desires as economic facts, and the commodities as of market standing. Whether we like it or not, utility, as an economic term, means merely adaptability to human desires." This frankly recognizes the urgent and pressing need for an objective, systematic investigation of social utility in the deepest sense, of the conditions essential to a welfare which is not deceptive, of desires which are not based on foolishness and evil. The "budding science" of sociology is an honest effort to supply this demand of rational and practical interest. It is to the praise of economists that in delimiting their own vast territory they reveal the need of a new method of regarding human life and even suggest its problems.

C. R. HENDERSON.

L'Évolution régressive en Biologie et en Sociologie. Par MM. JEAN DEMOOR, JEAN MASSART et ÉMILE VANDERVELDE. Paris: Félix Alcan, 1897. 1 vol. in-8°, de la *Bibliothèque scientifique internationale*, avec 84 gravures dans la texte, cart. à l'anglaise. Pp. 324. Fr. 6.

THE biological analogy has here borne fruit in a volume by three Belgian professors, in which regression and atrophy of organs in plants and animals are compared in detail with the decay of social institutions and usages. The authors insist that the word evolution